

From the Upper Chamber



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Report for Thursday, January 26, 2006

The ninth day of the 2006 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Mark Taylor**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 455-463 and House Bills 713 and 1068 were read for the first time and assigned to their respective Committees.

Following the report of Standing Committees and second reading of Senate Bills and Resolutions, the morning roll call was taken.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** then recognized Sen. **Chip Pearson** of the 51st to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Pearson** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Pastor **Austin Gardner** of World Vision Baptist Church of Alpharetta, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

There were no Points of Personal Privilege.

The Secretary then read SR 683, which commends Georgia's registered nurses. Without objection, it was adopted. Sen. **Ross Tolleson** of the 20th and Sen. **David Adelman** of the 42nd spoke to the Resolution and recognized the nurses present at the Capitol today.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** recognized Sen. **John Douglas** of the 17th to present a Georgia flag that was carried into battle in Iraq during joint U.S.-Iraqi Operation Lion on September 12, 2005 by the 48th Brigade. Lt. Gov **Taylor** and President Pro Tempore **Eric Johnson** of the 1st accepted the flag on behalf of the Senate.

Sen. **Ronnie Chance** of the 16th was recognized to introduce **Harold Logsdon**, Mayor of Peachtree City.

The Secretary then read SB 120, which provides that no state agency shall impose any requirement on broadband service, voice over Internet protocol or wireless service. It also provides that existing requirements are void.

Sen. **Mitch Seabaugh** of the 28th took the well to present the bill and Amendment 1, which clarifies the position of the Public Service Commission in regards to customer complaints. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Regina Thomas** of the 2nd.

Sen. **Adelman** moved to be excused from the vote under the Senate Rule governing conflict of interest.

Amendment 1 was adopted by a vote of 33-0.

The Committee Substitute was adopted by a vote of 37-0.

SB 120 passed by substitute as amended by a vote of 46-3.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** recognized Sen. **Judson Hill** of the 32nd, who then introduced the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **Tom Cooper** of Marietta, who greeted the Senate from the rostrum.

The Secretary then read HR 1114, relating to adjournment. Sen. **Tommie Williams** of the 19th took the well to speak to the Resolution. Without objection, the Resolution was adopted.

Majority Leader **Williams** moved that pursuant to HR 1114 the Senate stand adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 31.

Following the announcements, the Secretary read SR 722, recognizing 2006 as the 75th Anniversary Celebration of Georgia's State Parks and Historic Sites. Without objection it was adopted. Sen. **Tolleson** spoke to the Resolution and presented Commissioner **Noel Holcomb** of the Department of Natural Resources. Director **Becky Kelley** of the State Parks & Historic Sites Division thanked the Senate and spoke to the exciting events surrounding the celebration this year.

The motion by Majority Leader **Williams** carried and the Senate stood adjourned.

*Clarification: In the January 25th edition of **From the Upper Chamber**, Sen. **Gloria Butler** of the 55th took the well in support of Amendment 6 to SB 382, while Sen. **Valencia Seay** of the 34th took the well to voice her support of Amendment 7 to SB 382.*

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